Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, ETRD, KE, UG

SUBJ: OBR ON TRADE REGULATIONS OF SELECTED AFRICAN MARKETS

REF: USDOC 03130

- 1. POST APPRECIATES OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW AND COMMENT ON DRAFT SUMMARY OF UGANDA TRADE REGULATIONS.
- 2. NO MORE THAN A HIGHLY RESERVED RECOMMENDATION OF THE UGANDA MARKET IS WARRANTED. POST WOULD, THEREFORE, MATERIALLY ALTER OR DELETE THE UGANDA SECTION OF THE OBR. EMB NAIROBI STRONGLY DISSUADES U.S. BUSINESS TRAVEL TO UGANDA AND COUNSELS AGAINST THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW INVESTMENT OR SALES OFFICES IN KENYA ON THE ASSUMPTION OF FREE AND EASY ACCESS TO UGANDAN (OR TANZANIAN) MARKETS. CASH-IN-ADVANCE OR IRREVOCABLE LETTER OF CREDIT CONFIRMED BY OUTSIDE BANK ARE THE ONLY RECOMMENDABLE TERMS FOR UGANDA BUSINESS DEALINGS.
- 2. THE TRADE POLICY SECTION OF THE DRAFT DOES NOT ADEQUATELY QUALIFY THE TRADING STATUS OF THE U.S. AND UGANDA OR THAT AMONG MEMBER STATES OF THE E.A. COMMUNITY IN LIGHT OF RECENT POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS.

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- 3. THE DRAFT IS COMMENDABLY STRAIGHT-FORWARD AND COMPREHENSIVE. HOWEVER, THIS STYLE OF PRESENTATION MAY CONVEY THE MISTAKEN IMPRESSION THAT UGANDA CONDITIONS ARE SIMILAR TO OTHER MARKETS. THE LACK OF NORMAL EMB COMMERCIAL SERVICES, FOR INSTANCE, SHOULD BE HIGHLIGHTED.
- 4. THE EMB REGRETS NOT BEING ABLE TO VERIFY THE ACCURACY

OF DETAILS REGARDING UGANDA'S TRADE REGULATIONS. THERE IS NO KNOWN SOURCE FOR THIS INFORMATION IN NAIROBI WHICH CAN BE GUARANTEED CURRENT AND THE VARIANCE BETWEEN REGULATION AND PRACTICE IS REPORTED TO BE VERY GREAT.

MARSHALL

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